



## 2006 Fiscal Report Soils Program

NRCS provides technical and financial assistance to help agricultural producers and others care for the land. NRCS has six mission goals that include high quality, productive soils; clean and abundant water; healthy plant and animal communities; clean air; an adequate energy supply; and working farms and ranchlands.

### Vision

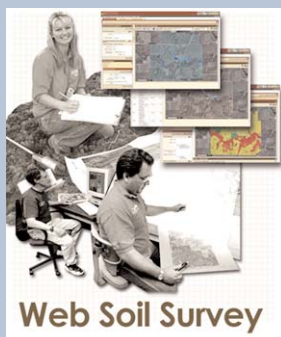
Productive Lands -  
Healthy Environment

### Mission

Helping People Help the Land

*"The completion of the Costilla County survey is another historic milestone in the history of the Colorado Soil Survey Program. The project began more than 45 years ago."*

*State Soil Scientist*



The Web Soil Survey allows online viewing of soil survey maps and reports. This new application enhances access to information on soils.

<http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/>

### The Program

Soil surveys have been an important resource tool for 100 years. At first, soil surveys were conducted to find areas in which to expand agriculture. Today, they are used to plan ways to protect soil and water from erosion, sedimentation, and pollution. Federal, state, and local governments, private individuals, and businesses use soil information for:

- ◆ Agriculture
- ◆ Engineering
- ◆ Transportation
- ◆ Urban development
- ◆ Wetlands
- ◆ Wildlife habitat
- ◆ Farm Bill program eligibility and ranking criteria

### Colorado encompasses

- ◆ 66,618,200 acres
- ◆ 63 percent in private ownership
- ◆ 22 percent National Forest
- ◆ 12 percent U.S. Bureau of Land Management
- ◆ The rest is divided between National Parks, Native American, and other Federal land.

### Soil Surveys Are Available

- ◆ 98% of the State's privately owned land have soil surveys available in published or in draft form, and
- ◆ 96 percent of the state's Federal land.
- ◆ With the exception of Denver County, it is estimated that digital soil survey information will be available for all private lands by the end of 2007.
- ◆ Approximately 100,000 acres of private land remain to be mapped.

### During the Past Year

- ◆ 180,000 acres were surveyed (approximately)
- ◆ Field activities are on-going in the following areas: Morgan, Mesa, Routt, Costilla, Ridgway, Teller-Park, Las Animas, and Archuleta.

### 2006 SSURGO Certified areas

#### Include:

- ◆ Uncompahgre National Forest Area
- ◆ Ute Mountain Area (Indian Reservation)
- ◆ Parts of Archuleta, Mesa, and Routt Soil Survey Areas